THE POST, Frederick, Md.
Tuesday, September 18, 1984

JACK ANDERSON

The Washington Merry-go-round

WASHINGTON — When it comes to milking the federal government for handouts, the welfare cheats and food-stamp chiselers, who have aroused President Reagan's indignation, can't hold a candle to Louisiana Pacific Corp., the nation's largest buyer of publicly owned timber.

The company goes after the big bucks, not penny-ante peculations.

I've already reported how the U.S. Forest Service — head [illegible]

UNSEEING JUSTICE: The Justice Department has tried to discredit a persistent adversary by claiming that he had been "closely observed" misbehaving in federal court for over five years, when in fact he had been seriously ill at home throughout the period except for one brief court appearance.

Justice's target is Harold Weisberg, 71, who has been trying to extract information from Justice about the 1963 assassination of President John Kennedy.

In an appeal brief, Justice Department attorneys managed to malign Weisberg's lawyer, James Lesar, as well, writing: "The district court had closely observed plaintiff's counsel's relations with plaintiff in this litigation for more than five years."

The brief blistered Lesar for allegedly letting his client get out of control. Actually, in his one appearance, in 1980, Weisberg sat in the audience, not at counsel's table.

Weisberg has been virtually confined to his home with a variety of circulatory ailments since September 1980. Yet the Justice brief claims the trial judge "saw" Weisberg making "interminable demands" for information.

CROSS-BORDER DRUG TRADE: Mexico continues to be a major conduit